

Letter from Mabel Hubbard Bell to Alexander Graham Bell, August 1878, with transcript

Letter from Mrs. Alexander Graham Bell to Dr. Alexander Graham Bell. Upper Norwood, Wednesday. Aug. (1878) My darling Alec:

I am so sorry I fear the mail has gone and that you will miss your letter. I had no idea it was so late. Your hurried note of Monday night reached me this noon. It wasn't such, but such better than nothing and I am glad you did not sit up after one. I am anxious to know if you will do anything about Mr. Preece's letter, it is far more important than those letters hitherto published, and certainly should be refuted.

Dr. Johnson came today and I was quite pleased that to punish him for vacinating my poor little innocent over again he was unable to get any lymph from the other three places. They had taken effect to be sure, but the first place grew so big that there was nothing for the others to feed upon. The Dr. ought to have been content with the one. We were confined to the house all day yesterday by the Forrester's Fete. All the scum of London seemed let loose here, and all day long the people marched or rode up and down blowing trumpets, shaking tambourines, shouting, whistling and making all the noise they could. The women wore gaudy scarlet and white colors and even the men were gorgeous in white and colored coats, I should think made of paper. They wore paper streamers in their hats at all events. Of course the dram shops were in high feathers making the streets unsafe for respectable people. Mamma was telling the Dr. today how we used to go out in the streets of Rome and Paris at midnight to see grand displays of fireworks and illuminations, mix with the crowd, alone and unprotected and never met with the least insult or rudeness or saw any sign of tumult.

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Baby who has been nursing as I write is asleep now and I must go out and mail this. Sister and Mamma are in the Palace, Ber and I are going for a short "Constitutional."

With very much love, Yours ever, Wednesday.